

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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AMEMBASSY ATHENS

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 7006

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR NATO

SUBJECT: NAC MEETING, 18 DEC 74, ITEM III: 1975 BUDGET ESTIMATES
FOR NATO MILITARY HEADQUARTERS, AGENCIES AND PROGRAMS; AND ITEM
IV: BUDGETS AND INTERNATIONAL CIVILIAN PERSONNEL ESTABLISHMENTS
RECOMMENDED FOR 1975 FOR NATO MILITARY HEADQUARTERS, AGENCIES
AND PROGRAMS FINANCED BY THE FIFTEEN NATIONS

REFS: A. C-M(74)91

B. C-M(74)92

C. USNATO 6875

D. USNATO 6869

E. STATE 273021

F. MC 233

G. MC 235

H. USDEL 1113/74

I. DPC/D(74)34

SUMMARY. COUNCIL WELCOMED NEW SACEUR (GEN HAIG) AND NOTED ITEMS III
AND IV OF AGENDA, THUS ENDORSING 1975 MILITARY BUDGETS FOR FIFTEEN
NATIONS. NAC ALSO NOTED GREEK COMMENTS CONCERNING PARTICIPATION
IN NATO MILITARY BUDGETS. END SUMMARY.

1. PRIOR TO DECLARING NAC IN SESSION, SYG LUNS INTRODUCED
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NEWLY APPOINTED SACEUR, GENERAL ALEXANDER HAIG, TO THE COUNCIL.
IN BRIEF COMMENT, SYG NOTED THAT POSITION OF SACEUR, MORE THAN OTHER
SUPREME COMMANDERS SYMBOLIZES COMMITMENT OF NORTH AMERICA TO
EUROPE. POSITIONAS SACEUR CALLS FOR HIGHEST QUALIFICATIONS,

WHICH GENERAL HAIG POSSESSES, AND HIS ASSIGNMENT IS MOST WARMLY WELCOMED.

2. GENERAL HAIG RESPONDED BRIEFLY, NOTING HE IS PROUD OF ASSIGNMENT, COGNIZANT OF HIS RESPONSIBILITY, AND ANXIOUS TO WORK CLOSELY WITH COUNCIL. HE EXPRESSED BELIEF THAT THE ALLIANCE IS IN THE INTEREST OF THE US AS WELL AS EUROPE, AND CONVICTION THAT THE FREE WORLD REMAINS FREE IN LARGE MEASURE DUE TO EXISTENCE OF ALLIANCE.

3. NAC AGENDA ITEM III. COUNCIL NOTED DOCUMENTS C-M(74)91, MC 233 AND MC 235 TOGETHER WITH GREEK STATEMENT ON BASIS OF ITS PARTICIPATION.

4. SYG OPENED DISCUSSION BY NOTING THAT THESE THREE DOCUMENTS SHOULD BE TAKEN TOGETHER. MC 233 EXPRESSED CONCERN OF MILITARY COMMITTEE ON ADEQUACY OF BUDGETS TO MEET MILITARY REQUIREMENTS. C-M(74)91, PARAS 9 AND 26, CLEARLY REFLECTED MILITARY BUDGET COMMITTEE VIEW. MC 235, ISSUED AFTER MBC REPORT TO COUNCIL, PROVIDED AGREEMENT TO MBC RECOMMENDED BUDGETS SUBJECT TO SOME QUALIFICATION. SYG THEREFORE INVITED ADMIRAL SIR PETER HILL-NORTON (CHAIRMAN, MC) TO COMMENT ON LINGERING MC CONCERNS.

5. SIR PETER NOTED THAT MC 235 AGREES WITH MBC RECOMMENDED BUDGETS AND RECOGNIZES MC AND MBC HAVE SAME OBJECTIVES. HE NOTED MC ACCORDS HIGHEST PRIORITY TO SACLAN T URGENT REQUIREMENTS WHICH MBC WILL TAKE UP EARLY IN NEW YEAR. HE NOTED THAT THE MILITARY COMMITTEE HAS CONTINUING DOUBT ABOUT THE ADEQUACY OF THE CEILING OF BF 5.9 BILLION, BUT ACKNOWLEDGED THAT AT THIS STAGE NO ONE CAN SAY FOR SURE WHETHER CEILING IS ADEQUATE AND THEREFORE ASKED COUNCIL TO NOTE DOCUMENTS.

6. PRIOR TO COUNCIL NOTING DOCUMENTS, AMBASSADOR DE ROSE (FRANCE) CALLED ATTENTION TO THE DISPARITY IN THE AMOUNT OF APPROVED BUDGET AND THE AMOUNT OF THE CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS. BATUK (CHAIRMAN, MILITARY BUDGET COMMITTEE) NOTED THAT C-M(74)91, PARA 24, COMMENTED BRIEFLY ON THIS PHENOMONON. SIR PETER CONFIDENTIAL

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COUNTERED WITH A BRIEF EXPOSE OF THE NATURAL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE BUDGET AND THE CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS.

7. AMBASSADOR THEODOROPoulos (GREECE) POINTED OUT THAT GREECE HAS NOTIFIED SYG IT IS PREPARED TO DISCUSS PROBLEMS ARISING FROM GREEK WITHDRAWAL FROM MILITARY PARTICIPATION IN NATO. NAC AGENDA ITEMS III AND IV AND DPC AGENDA ITEM I DEALING WITH NATO BUDGETS ARE AMONG ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED, AS IS ALSO INFRASTRUCTURE. SINCE HE WOULD NOT BE PRESENT AT DPC MEETING, HE WISHED TO STATE THE GREEK POSITION IN PRINCIPLE, WHICH IS THAT UNTIL ALL PROBLEMS ARE DISCUSSED AND RESOLVED, GREECE WILL CONTINUE TO ACT ON SAME BASIS AS PRIOR TO 14 AUGUST 1974. GREECE THEREFORE STATES NO RESERVATION TO APPROVAL OF 1975

MILITARY BUDGETS.

8. THE COUNCIL THEN NOTED DOCUMENTS.

9. NAC AGENDA ITEM IV. AMBASSADOR KRAPF (FRG) MAINTAINED RES-
ERVATION TO THE TROPO FORWARD SCATTER BUDGET (C-M(74)92, PARA 5).
SUBJECT TO THIS RESERVATION, THE COUNCIL APPROVED THE MILITARY
BUDGETS TO BE FINANCED BY FIFTEEN NATIONS. BRUCE

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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